

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

<b>To:</b>	Office of Planning and Research Post Office Box 3044 Sacramento, California 95812	<b>From:</b>	Department of Water Resources Water Management 1516 9 <sup>th</sup> Street Sacramento, California 95814
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<b>Project Title</b>	Conveyance of up to 2,500 acre-feet of 2022 Central Valley Project Water to Kern County Water Agency (SWPAO #22027).
<b>Location- Specific</b>	From O'Neill Forebay to Reaches 10A through 16A of the California Aqueduct
<b>Location- County</b>	Kern County
<b>Description of Activity</b>	Conveyance of up to 2,500 acre-feet of 2022 Central Valley Project (CVP) Friant Recirculation water (Non-Project Water) to Kern County Water Agency (KCWA), on behalf of its member unit, Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District (WRMWSO). This Non-Project water was acquired by WRMWSO from Orange Cove Irrigation District, a CVP Friant Division Contractor. The United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) will make the Non-Project Water available at O'Neill Forebay for subsequent delivery by DWR to KCWA's service area for use within the CVP place of use by February 28, 2023.
<b>Name of Public Agency Approving or Carrying out Activity</b>	KCWA (lead agency), DWR (responsible agency), Reclamation
<b>Exempt Status</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Ministerial <input type="checkbox"/> Declared Emergency <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Project <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Categorical Exemption: Class 1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, existing facility <input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Exemption: California Water Code Section 1729
<b>Reasons why activity is exempt</b>	a. State Water Project long-term water supply contract includes provisions for conveyance of non-project water to SWP contractors . b. No construction is required to implement the proposed delivery. c. The facilities are existing facilities that have not been expanded or modified to implement the proposed change in points of delivery. d. There will be no change in land use.
<b>Responsible Agency Contact Person</b>	Patrick Luzuriaga Telephone: 916-820-7778

<p>Signature: <i>John Leahigh</i></p> <hr/> <p>John Leahigh Assistant Division Manager, Water Management Division of Operations and Maintenance</p>	<p>Date: 9/29/2022</p> <hr/>
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